

# The Wichita Daily Eagle.

VOLUME XXXIV.

WICHITA, KANSAS, FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 26, 1901.

NUMBER 138

## TWO HUNDRED PERSONS DEAD

### Powder Houses at Frankfort, Germany, Are Blown to Pieces.

## TROOPS CALLED OUT

### Sparks Shot to Neighboring Villages and Set Fire to Many Houses--Dead Are Being Removed by Lamplight.

## FIRE STILL BURNING FURIOUSLY

### All Railroad Traffic Stopped Except Trains Carrying the Injured--Explosion Beats All Former Records--Neighboring Fire Brigades Hurrying to the Scene.

Frankfort, April 25.—One of the most destructive explosions on record occurred this afternoon at the Electro Chemical works near Frankfort, where molasses was being stored. Most of the buildings were blown to pieces, and it was estimated that it was about a quarter of eight o'clock when the explosion occurred. The factory immediately became a mass of flames and a powerful wind carried the sparks to neighboring villages where several houses were also set on fire. The explosion was so powerful that it was heard about one hundred miles away. The explosion was so powerful that it was heard about one hundred miles away. The explosion was so powerful that it was heard about one hundred miles away.

Troops were immediately ordered to the scene to prevent the fire spreading to the houses. The explosion was so powerful that it was heard about one hundred miles away. The explosion was so powerful that it was heard about one hundred miles away. The explosion was so powerful that it was heard about one hundred miles away.

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age to both countries. Moreover, it seems to me, possible so to adjust tariff concessions on both sides, so that there will be no disadvantage to special lines of industry or products. The exchange of goods encouraged more particularly on lines of goods which one country produces and which the other does not produce. There are great opportunities for an increased use in France of the American product of iron. It is quite certain, too, that if the United States takes the initiative in making concessions France will reciprocate in the fullest measure. The prevailing sentiment in France is favorable to a protective policy, although personally I am rather inclined to free trade. But in any event, I am quite sure that some middle ground can be secured to the advantage of both countries. I am glad to say that there is the most cordial sentiment throughout France toward the United States. This is traditional with us, but there never has been a time when the feeling was more genuine than it is at present.

M. Siegfried was asked as to the recent reports that some of the European powers might unite in commercial alliance against the United States. He said: "That might come about," said he, "and it is an additional reason why it is desirable to have the two republics enter into close commercial relations." M. Siegfried also expressed an interest in this country to the United States, and the payment of subsidies. He says that France already has a subsidy system which assisted to a considerable extent in meeting the commercial supremacy of Great Britain on the sea. He is entering into the same line of encouragement in the United States would bring about similar results in the development of American merchant shipping. He will remain in Washington until tomorrow, when he starts on an extensive trip through the country to visit the Carnegie works at Pittsburgh and going thence to Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and many other points, returning by way of Canada to Boston and commercial centers in New England.

### CUBANS SEE M'KINLEY

President Tells Them of His Interest in Their Cause. Washington, April 25.—The Cuban delegation from the convention framing a constitution for the new island republic saw President McKinley twice today, once in the early part of the day, when there were expressions of friendship and again at night when the members of the delegation were the guests of honor at a state dinner at the White House.

The president in the forenoon interview at the White House saying to the delegation that he would confer with the secretary who would act as an interpreter in the Cuban question. The delegation and Secretary Root were elected for some hours in the afternoon in a discussion of the relations of the island to the United States. Secretary Root was observed as to the conference, the statement being made that after results were reached in the Cuban question, the conclusions might be made public.

Matters of importance were not touched upon in the interview between the president and the delegation, the conference being almost wholly informal. Senator Zaprata in his address to the president spoke of the desire of the Cubans to have the closest possible relations with the United States. He said that the United States soldiers and Cubans had fought side by side and driven Spain from the island and the ties between the two countries were bound by blood and friendship. The relations between the two countries always should be most amicable, and closer than that which usually exists between nations. He also spoke of the gratitude which Cuba felt for the United States for the assistance rendered in their liberation.

In response the president expressed his pleasure at meeting the delegation and desired through them to extend his kindest wishes to the people of the island. He said that his interest in Cuba always had been great and he made reference to messages he had sent to congress commending the island. He said that the Cuban question would be the subject of his most earnest consideration. He congratulated the members of the delegation upon being members of the Cuban constitutional convention. He said it was a high honor and it fell to the lot of but few men to have the opportunity to frame a government for a republic. Concerning the object of the delegation's visit the president said he would confer with the secretary of war, and the secretary, having an intimate knowledge of the situation, would confer with the delegation.

### NEW GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

#### Plan of Operations Was Announced Yesterday.

Washington, April 25.—The plan of operations of the geological survey for the next fiscal year was announced today. Numerous parties are to be sent to all sections of the country to engage in geological, topographical and other lines of survey work. An important feature will be an investigation, in co-operation with the coast and geodetic survey, of marked parts of the northwest boundary between the United States and Canada. The line will be run and temporarily marked by iron posts in certain localities. It is planned to make a reconnaissance of the whole line from the summit of the Rocky mountains westward. Geologist Bailey Willis, with a party will make a reconnaissance of a strip ten to fifteen miles wide along the south side of the boundary line. Idaho and Montana to determine its geological features and the condition of the boundary monuments. Other geologists will make surveys from the Colorado line westward to the Pacific coast.

### EMPEROR WILLIAM'S SPEECH

#### Newspapers Now Have Their Say About It.

Berlin, April 25.—The Berlin papers with the exception of the semi-official organs and the conservative journals, comment on the most part in favorable terms upon Emperor William's speech yesterday at the Kommer's which welcomed the matriculation of Crown Prince Frederick William at the University of Bonn. Nearly all dwell upon his Anglophile utterances and also his references to Germany as a peace-loving nation. The National Zeitung, which emphasizes the emperor's references to nationalism in modern Germany, says: "The emperor did not mean our ally, Austria-Hungary, which is a mixture of nationalities, nor Switzerland, nor the United States. Moreover, portions of Germany herself contain Polish, French, Danish and Slav fragments. Therefore Germany is not exclusively German, neither does Germany contain all the Germans, for there are Germans in Austria and Russia as well as in other countries."

Several papers call attention to the unusual religious and melancholy strain pervading the end of the speech. The Berliner Post, which praises the patriotic ring, which all Germans will heed the emperor's warnings, as he, on this occasion as often before, spoke for "those things that move momentarily, the German soul." The Freistadt-Zeitung suggests that the Bonn speech directly contradicts the other recent speech of the emperor, the one delivered at Saarburg, near Hamburg where he proclaimed his longing that Germany, like Rome, might girdle the earth. Among the extraordinary precautions taken by the police at Bonn was the temporary incarceration of a number of Italian lawyers, suspected of anarchistic tendencies.

His majesty displayed the friendliest toward his former fellow students and Count Tietz-Winckler and Baron Plessen with whom during a steamer excursion on the Rhine river he jested merrily and exchanged reminiscences of student life. THOMPSON SUCCEEDS EDWARDS Laymen Elected Editor of Christian Advocate.

Cincinnati, O., April 25.—David S. D. Thompson was today elected editor of the Northwestern Christian Advocate of Chicago, by the book committee of the Methodist Episcopal church, to succeed Rev. Dr. Arthur Edwards, deceased. The action is decidedly progressive, and was not accomplished without a struggle. Precedent was entirely against the successful candidate, for he is a layman, and hitherto only reverends and doctors had been elected. Thompson is well known in the editorial chairs of the Methodist papers as well as to fill almost all the other places of trust and honor. He has against him as rival candidates such distinguished men as Rev. Dr. Jesse Bowman Young, Cincinnati, an editor of many years' experience; Rev. J. J. Herken, assistant editor of the New York Advocate; Rev. Dr. R. J. Coke of the Methodist Advocate; Rev. Dr. W. W. Clark of Cincinnati; Rev. N. H. Whitehead of Madison, Wis.; Rev. W. N. Miller, of Springfield, Ill.; Rev. C. M. Coburn, of Denver; Prof. C. M. Stuart of Northwestern University, and H. H. Potts, editor of the Michigan Christian Advocate.

Twenty-five or thirty years ago Mr. Thompson began his connection with the Methodist journal, by becoming a proof reader in the office of the Western Christian Advocate in this city. Subsequently he was made news editor and finally assistant editor, and after a brief absence from the paper, he returned to it as editor. He is a native of Springfield, Ohio, he became connected with the Northwestern Christian Advocate in Chicago.

## THOUSANDS OF MEN IDLE

### Ohio River Floods Have Done Much Damage.

### MILLION DOLLAR LOSS

### Estimated in Southern Part of West Virginia.

### 3,000 PEOPLE HOMELESS

### Flood Now at a Standstill and End Is Near.

Cincinnati, O., April 25.—The end of the flood is in sight here tonight. At 6 o'clock the stage was 56.1 feet and rising less than one-half inch per hour. The rise from 4 a. m. to 5 p. m. was only seven inches, and at short intervals during the day it was stationary. The river at 5 o'clock tonight was rising slowly for fifty miles above Cincinnati. It was stationary for 100 miles below that point, and falling for 200 miles below Pittsburg. It will be some time before the flood will be stationary here before midnight and for fifty miles below Cincinnati by morning. The stage is not expected to exceed 53.5 feet here tonight, and that is considerably below the record of seven days previously.

With the water almost ten feet above the danger line, there is almost endless inconvenience and loss on both sides of the river here, and there is some distress tonight. Mayor Fleischmann secured relief funds today and had committees appointed, as hundreds of houses will not be fit for habitation for some time after the water recedes. Similar action was taken in Newport and Dayton, Ky., today where the conditions are still worse in inundated districts. The Newport tract is submerged from one to three feet and greater crowds are attracted than usual owing to the sight of the horses running in water. The National League baseball park, where a game was played by the Cincinnati and Chicago teams today, is completely flooded tonight. All the roads are in trouble today in hard dirt and mud, and some abandoned that part of their business. None of them has abandoned any passenger trains, but the Cincinnati, George town and Portsmouth railway has been compelled to employ ferry boats and tow boats to take the passengers as far as the eastern suburb of Columbia, east of Cincinnati. Street railways were compelled to make four different transfers in the east end of Cincinnati today with their high motors. These high motors were not able to make the transfers on the west side of the river, owing to the high water along Mill Creek Valley, and especially in Cumminville and Riverdale. Three churches in Cincinnati are surrounded by water, and as many school buildings, but these three schools were dismissed. A careful estimate today placed the number of men thrown out of employment in Cincinnati by the flood at 2,300 and about half as many in Covington and Newport, Ky.

At Frankton it was reported that 1,500 men had been thrown out of employment. Similar conditions exist at Calhoun, Portsmouth and Huntington. An estimate has been made at Huntington that over 3,000 families are homeless in southern part of West Virginia and 5,000 men and the loss by flood in that part of the state will exceed a million dollars.

At Ripley and New Richmond, up the river from Cincinnati, and other towns in those districts the conditions are reported tonight as very serious as the smaller places are all under water and have not the means of relief of larger cities. At Mayville, Ky., sixty miles up the river, a stationary stage of 45 feet was reached today and it began falling at 7 o'clock tonight. At Aberdeen, Ohio, across the river from Mayville, it will take several weeks to repair the residences, but the people are preparing to re-occupy them. Above these cities scenes of desolation and ruin are reported everywhere as the water recedes. At Madison, Ind., 48 miles below Cincinnati, a stage of 46 feet at 6 o'clock tonight covered Front street, and 12 feet is anticipated. This will put the water into the first floors of the National and Western hotels and into the large Barker tobacco works. The hotels and other property across the river in Marion, Ky., are flooded.

Franksville, Ind., April 25.—The river here at 7 o'clock tonight was 35 feet and rising an inch an hour. It is estimated that farmers between here and Paducah, Ky., will lose \$2,000,000 of corn. The water has begun to get into the cellars of the business houses. Thousands of logs are coming out of Green river, ten miles north of here. The lumber men will lose heavily.

### SIR CHRISTOPHER FURNESS

#### He Sees Where England Isn't Getting a Square Deal.

London, April 25.—Sir Christopher Furness, head of the Furness line of steamers, has drawn the attention of the British board of trade to the anomaly involved in the fact that tonnage dues are charged in the case of British vessels entering American ports, while Dutch and Danish vessels enter free.

He desires the government to make representations on the subject to the United States. It is expected that General Bailew, president of the board of trade, will make a statement on the subject in the house of commons next week.

### STEAD SEES TROUBLE

#### England and the United States Will Have War.

London, April 25.—William T. Stead, in an interview with the Daily Mail yesterday said: "The Boers are calculating upon England's becoming embroiled with Russia or upon some other international complication. If I am not mistaken we are on the verge of a storm across the Atlantic that will rapidly become our worst calamity. When the United States Congress meets the Clayton-Bulwer treaty will be torn into shreds and flung to our faces. We shall have to choose between fighting and eating humble pie."

### RITCHEY FAVORS THE POOR.

London, April 25.—The home secretary, Mr. Ritchie, in behalf of the government today declined the request of a deputation from the London county council that parliament should be asked to raise the land tax. He said that it would be doubtful if it would give security against accidents, while it would raise the price of an article used by the poor.

### WILL VISIT IMPERIAL TOWNS.

Berlin, April 25.—Reports from the Cologne Gazette from Berlin, dated April 25, say that Field Marshal Count von Waldersee and six of his officers will go to the great wall next week to see the Imperial towns.

## MR. CONGER AT FRISCO

### Minister to China Lands on His Native Shores.

### INTERVIEWED ON POLITICS

### Will Accept Governorship of Iowa If He Is Asked.

### HE HASN'T MUCH TO SAY

### Concerning Inside Facts in Chinese Troubles.

San Francisco, April 25.—Edwin H. Conger, United States minister to China, accompanied by his wife, daughter and Miss Phelps, arrived from China this afternoon on the steamer Nippon Maru. Owing to quarantine regulations and the necessity of giving personal supervision to the landing of his baggage, Mr. Conger did not reach his hotel until 8 o'clock in the evening. Mr. Conger's arrival was awaited with considerable interest not only on account of his position in China but from a political standpoint. There was a general desire to know what position Mr. Conger would assume with reference to the coming gubernatorial nomination in Iowa. To a representative of the Associated Press, Mr. Conger was asked if he cared to make any expression on the gubernatorial matter. "I don't wish to make any public declaration at this time. I have not yet had time to read the correspondence which has met me here. So far as I am at present advised I am ready to change my position as expressed about two months ago, before I left China. I received two telegrams from the United States. One asked me if I were a candidate for governor. I answered: 'I am not.' The other telegram asked whether I would accept the nomination if tendered. I answered: 'I would accept it if the nomination came to me, but that I was in no sense a candidate. I don't care to nor will I say anything further in the matter until I reach Des Moines. I don't know what the situation in Iowa is and don't care to say anything definite until I am fully advised. My present intention and desire is to return to China and finish my work.'"

Touching events in China, Mr. Conger turned interviewer and was particularly anxious to know what had been done by the powers in the matter of indemnity. He was asked for his opinion. "The amount of indemnity China could pay," "Three hundred million dollars," he replied, accompanying his answer by the statement that it would be necessary for the government to practice economy. The time of payment, too, should extend over a long term of years. Concerning events in China, Mr. Conger says that there was nothing new to be said in that direction as everything that had happened had been told fully together with many things that never occurred. Tales of brutality had, he thought, been exaggerated. Of course, there were cases of outrage by individual soldiers which were not sanctioned by officers. These were but incidents of war which found some palliation in the fact that the Chinese had killed 6,000 native Christians and one hundred Europeans."

In regard to his future plans, Mr. Conger said he would remain in this city until Saturday morning when he would leave for his home in Des Moines, Iowa. At the expiration of his stay there he would leave for his home in Des Moines, Iowa. At the expiration of his stay there he would leave for his home in Des Moines, Iowa. At the expiration of his stay there he would leave for his home in Des Moines, Iowa.

When told that it was planned by the citizens of Des Moines to give him a public reception, he said that although he did not care for public demonstrations he would accept a reception at Des Moines. He belonged to the people of Iowa and always been kind to him, giving him everything he asked for, refusing him nothing. In return he had been compelled often to refuse the people of Iowa favors.

### HOBSON AND CERVERA

#### Old Enemies Will Meet as Friends at London.

Washington, April 25.—Naval Constructor Hobson, the hero of the Merrimack exploit in Santiago harbor, has declined to accept the invitation extended him some months ago to visit Admiral Cervera at Lisbon. The statement is made by a citizen of Alabama, from which state Hobson is a native.

It is not likely that Mr. Hobson can visit Spain till the fall. He has been detailed for special work at the Buffalo exposition, which will require his presence until then.

Admiral Cervera, as is well known, escorted High Admiral Dewey and the admiral's administration is mutual. Hobson has often spoken in high terms of the character and conduct of the admiral, who in turn gave full praise to the American's daring. The sinking of the Merrimack was regarded for a long time as having sealed the name of Santiago. The war on the sea, however, which Admiral Cervera described as a "rat in a trap" was maintained until Cervera made his bold dash.

### Roberts Held for Manslaughter.

London, April 25.—Jack Roberts, who was pitted against Billy Smith in the fight before the National Sporting club Monday that resulted in Smith's death, and Nottingham, manager of the club, together with the referee, time keeper and four seconds, were arraigned in the New street police court today on the charge of manslaughter. The magistrate remanded the accused on their own recognizances in 10 pounds each.

### High Price for Quakers.

Beaumont, Texas, April 25.—The Rice plantation of Vidalia, La., on which 100,000 bays, four miles southwest of the Louisiana border, has been sold for \$200,000 cash to Wright, Blodgett and Co., of Saginaw, Mich. The daily mail correspondent of the Louisiana border has been purchased by Dr. Henry Haywood and others of Chicago for \$200,000.